

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9, 11-22, and 24-34 are currently pending. Claims 2, 17, 30, and 31 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 2-9, 11-22, and 24-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,794,235 to Chess (hereinafter “the ‘235 patent”).

Amended Claim 2 is directed to a method of managing information, comprising: (1) identifying, by a user, from all words in an image, a word of the image as a keyword, prior to performing a search using the keyword; (2) determining a search result corresponding to the keyword; (3) displaying, on a display unit, a pop-up menu prepared based on a content of the search result, the pop-up menu including a list of selectable documents corresponding to the content of the search result; and (4) displaying additional information in response to a selection of a document in the list of documents in the pop-up menu. The changes to Claim 2 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

The ‘235 patent is directed to a method for monitoring the content of incoming data, such as an email, including the steps of receiving and displaying an electronic mail message, identifying the message or words that are not stop words, and for each identified in the message, searching one or more databases for an occurrence of an item likely to be related to the identified word, and if an occurrence is found, generate a notification message. In particular as shown in the flowchart of Figure 1, the ‘235 patent discloses a system in which, after a user opens an email, a background thread 12 isolates individual words or tokens within

¹ See, e.g., the flowchart in Figure 3 and the discussion related thereto in the specification.

the email, and for each token that is not a stop word, performs a search in a database for information that is likely to be of interest to the user. If the search using the token identifies one or more documents that may be of interest to the user, the token in the email is displayed in a different color to indicate to the user that there is further data available for that token. Further, the '235 patent discloses that the user may select among the tokens that have been colored to receive a pop-up menu that includes a list of the names of documents that have been uncovered in the search on that token and that the user may select one or more documents from the menu.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '235 patent fails to disclose the step of identifying, by a user, from all words in an image, a word of the image is a keyword, prior to performing a search using the keyword, as recited in amended Claim 2. Rather, the '235 patent discloses that the user may select only from color tokens, which are those tokens or words in an image that are not stop words, and words that have generated a hit in search of the database that is been automatically performed by the system prior to the user being able to select the word in the image. Thus, in the '235 system, the user is not able to select from all words in the image, but is only able to select from words that have already generated a hit in a search of a database. Thus, the '235 system does not disclose the step of identifying, by a user, from all words in an image, a word of the image as a keyword, prior to performing a search using the keyword. In contrast, in the '235 system, all words that are selected by a user have already had a search performed based on that word. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 2 (and all associated dependent claims) is rendered moot by the present amendment to Claim 2.

Independent Claim 31 recites the identifying step recited in Claim 2. Moreover, independent Claims 17 and 30 recite identifying, from all words in the displayed image based on user input, a word displayed in an image to be a keyword, prior to performing a search

using the keyword. As discussed above, the '235 patent fails to disclose this limitation. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 17, 30, and 31 (and all associated dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to the independent claims.

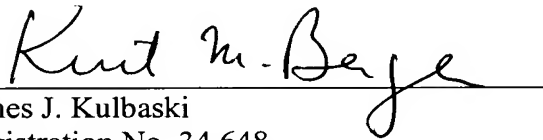
Further, Applicants note that Claim 13 recites displaying, on a display unit, in a space adjacent to the keyword, a menu comprising menu items for a specified search criteria for a search engine. In addition, Claim 15 recites the step of displaying, in a space adjacent to the keyword, a menu for specifying output criteria of the search result. Applicants respectfully submit that the '235 patent fails to disclose the limitations recited in Claims 13 and 15. In particular, regarding Claim 13, Applicants note that the Office Action cites to column 2 as disclosing this limitation. However, Applicants note that column 2, lines 27-29, merely disclose that the user may specify one or more databases in which to perform the search, but does not state that a menu is displayed in a space adjacent to the keyword that includes menu items for specifying search criteria for a search engine. Further, regarding Claim 15, Applicants note that the same sections in column 2 are cited by the Office Action. However, column 2 of the '235 patent does not disclose the displaying of a menu for specifying output criteria for the search result in a space adjacent to the keyword. The '235 patent is silent regarding the menus recited in Claims 13 and 15. Accordingly, for these additional reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 13 and 15 patentably define over the '235 patent.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 2, 17, 30, and 31 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '235 patent.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kurt M. Berger", is written over a horizontal line.

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